

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

To provide a face recognition method and apparatus for more accurately recognizing face portions contained in an image, face extraction method for extracting the recognized faces, and image pickup apparatus. A subject is photographed with a camera whose incidence of defects such as red-eye or other eye color change has been increased intentionally by designing the flash unit and lens to be extremely close to each other, and so on. Discolored eye portions are detected in a photographic image and the faces of people contained in the photographic image are recognized based on the discolored eye portions. The discolored eye portions in the photographic image are corrected and the recognized face portions are extracted from the corrected photographic image. This makes it possible to generate corrected facial images more accurately.